



BADGER STATE Smoke Signals



Serving Amateur Radio In Wisconsin

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At a recent meeting of the FCC, expansion of 20 meter phone privileges was approved.

Here's how the new segments stack up:

14.150 to 14.175 MHz. - Extra
14.175 to 14.225 MHz. - Extra & Advanced
14.225 to 14.350 MHz. - Extra, Advanced & General

This is not effective until 0001 UTC on May 22, 1983

The FCC is still studying expansion of phone segments on other bands, including 40 and 80 meters. Our neighbors to the north are less than pleased about U.S. phone band expansion.

Regarding the new volunteer examination proposal, QCHA asked FCC for and was granted an extension of time for filing of comments. The new deadline is (was) April 25, with reply comments due by May 19, 1983. (from ARRL Bulletin NR 29).

NO CODE: (from WESTLINK, Copyright Poco Press, used with permission.)

Amateurs wishing to file comments on "no-code" with the FCC still have time to do so - deadline is now June 28, 1983, with reply comments due by July 28, 1983. File your original and 7 copies with FCC, Washington, D.C. 20554. The "No Code" issue will probably be the major topic discussed at the upcoming ARRL Directors' meeting; many knowledgeable Amateurs expect a drastic change in the League's vehement anti- No Code stand.

A "10 year Amateur License" was discussed at the recent FCC meeting, but no decision was made. Instead, it was decided that the method to be used in handling the matter should be by a Notice of Proposed Rule Making which will be released shortly.

The Commissioners want the Amateur community to weigh

all the pros and cons of such a license term, including the possible problem of Amateurs forgetting to renew due to the length of the long term.

There will be no way for the Commission to pre-notify Radio Amateurs that their licenses may be expiring since that would take the FCC over budget. Also to be answered is whether such a license term should be made retroactive to all current license holders on renewal.

No Docket number has as yet been released.

Commercial Radiotelephone Licenses may soon be a thing of the past. The FCC has adopted, and will shortly release, a Notice of Proposed Rule Making aimed at deleting the requirement that individuals hold a General Radio Telephone license for most applications not involving international communications.

According to an FCC spokesman, there has been a significant drop in the number of applicants for this license because of some of the regulatory changes that were made in 1982 which affected the need for the license in both the commercial broadcasting and the General Radio services. No NPRM was available at presstime.

Supermercado:

For Sale: Ten-Tec Argonaut 505, model 405 linear, AC supply. Like new, with manuals and mike. Sell all three as a unit only. \$350. Jim Stone, K9JVP, 102 S. 5th Street, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572. Call (608) 437-8221 after 5:30 p.m.s.

For Sale: From estate of Hal Householder, W9MAQ

Collins 30L1 R.F. Amp. \$499.00. Collins 312B-4 Station Control 100.00. Th3MK3 Hy-Gain triband beam 125.00. 40' Heights aluminum tower 99.95. Collins KWM-2 (with a mod.) \$499.00. Collins 516F-2 AC supply \$100.00. (KWM-2 and supply both for \$550.00.) Also basement sale on April 30, 8 - 4. For details on QTH or to buy, contact Roy Rosser, W9IAU, 5909 Malabar Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53711. (608) 271-1119.

Lookin' Around: Congrats to a dad/son team from Park Falls on their upgrading from Novice to General - Jim (KA9NPP) and Ray Fenzl (KA9NPD). Ray sez he doesn't like being called "OM" since he's only 14. Other Park Falls upgrades are Diane Schrader, KA9QVS, General, Jim Schmidt, KA9NPN, General, Pete Kanikula, KA9NPY, General, and, from Phillips, Bob Dragovich, General. Congrats.

Your Editor Sins! I need a good rap on the head and calendar reading lessons. The South Milwaukee RAC Swapfest is Saturday, July 9, not 6. Sorry, Verne. Flyers on the way!

Other Fests:

Saturday, May 7: Ozaukee Swapfest, Circle 8. Recreation Center, Intersection Hwy 60 & County I.

Also on the same day May 7: 3-F Fest at the Labor Temple, in Neenah. Talkin 37/97 and 52. (flyers enclosed, sorry they didn't arrive in time for last issue.)

In June Sunday the 5th brings two. The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs at Bukholt Park, Stevens Point. Also Starved Rock Radio Club, Princeton, Illinois.

We will be happy to include news of your events here and can include your flyers with Smoke Signals. For information please contact K9EN or K9ZZ.

Art Dunham, KA9IKR, is teaching Ham Radio to a whole troop of Boy Scouts in Park Falls. 'Way to go Art!

Jim, K9ZZ and Bob, KA9GNY have about 10 students starting a class in Baraboo.

The lightning bug is brilliant,
Though he has a backward mind,
He flies throughout the blackest night,
With his headlight on behind.

Old Mufflers never die, they just get exhausted.

Badger State Smoke SignalsOfficers:

Ken Ebnetter, K9EN, Chairman
Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor
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822 Wauona Trail
Portage, Wisconsin 53901

Badger State Smoke Signals congratulates the Badger Amateur Radio Society for placing 2nd for their display set up for Expo 83. BARS (W9YT) received a nifty 300 bucks for their fine effort. Lasers were among the items used.

ERRATA: We had the wrong call listed last month for the President of the BARS (W9YT) in Madison. His correct call is W9PYE.

Your Editor is the ARRL Public Info Officer for the Wisconsin Section. I have available now Amateur Radio Public Service Radio spots by Gary Owens, Bill Bixby, Lorne Greene and Dick Van Dyke. I also have available on a returnable basis a 30 second color sound video PSA by Pernell Roberts and Gregory Harrison of "Trapper John, M.D." If you can get 'em aired, drop me a note. I also have radio PSAs by Owen Garriott, NASA Astronaut. (He is WSLFL, set to fly STS9 in the fall.) -- K9ZZ

Man may smile in the morning.

Man may smile at the dawn.

But the man worth while.

Is he man who can smile,

When his two front teeth are gone.

It used to be that some one who saved money was a miser; nowadays he's a wonder!

The quickest way to get people interested in a project is to tell them it is none of their business.

A GUIDE TO COMPUTERS (from ARNS Bulletin)

Every day the decision is made by someone as to whether or not to buy a computer. There are so many available that it takes a lot of information to decide which one is the best for the purpose. The following is compiled from many sources, particularly computer magazines and books and is presumed to be an average consensus.

The first consideration is "micro" versus "mini" computers. There is no well marked dividing line but minicomputers are generally considered as those designed for business use, and generally consist of a complete system. These run from about \$3000 on up. We will not consider them in this discussion.

Microcomputers run from less than \$100 to the 3 or 4 thousand dollar region. It is difficult to classify the top computers as mini or micro since this will depend upon the desires of the purchaser. Remember that the inexpensive micros are not complete. You have to furnish a TV set for the monitor, and other peripherals for storage. One should investigate whether or not general units can be used with the computer. For example, suppose you wish to add a disk unit and you find that your computer will accept only one specific type which is made by the computer company and which costs twice as much as any other disk drive. Remember that the low price is the starter; if you really want a computer you have to buy a lot of additional equipment.

There are at least five general factors which should be considered when purchasing a computer. These are discussed as follows:

MEMORY: How much memory does the unit contain for storing programs and doing the job? The cheaper units have about 4K (that's four thousand characters) and the higher units can contain 48K (which is almost 50,000 characters) or more. Not all of this is available for files and operating since the operating system and program being used will reduce the storage available for operations. Many minis provide for adding additional memory after you have purchased the bare unit. Inquire as to the cost of additional memory. You might not think you need it when you buy the unit but after use, you will probably want more.

EXTERNAL MEMORY/STORAGE: What type of external storage is provided for the unit? Remember you must provide it for the cheaper units. A tape recorder is the first choice for the inexpensive units, but it should have a counter for maximum use. Next comes disk drives. If the mini does not come with disk drives, can they be added? Many cheaper units do not provide for disk drives even if you want to add them later, and some require a specific one. Of course, the higher priced units all come with disk drives or they can be added later.

A particularly important consideration is whether or not you desire a printer. Printers are available in the dot-matrix and impact type. The dot matrix printers form the letters from dots and cannot make curves on letters so the printing will look like typing. The impact type, of course resembles a typewriter. Dot-matrix printers run from about \$300 up. The most common ones run in the \$400-600 range. In the impact types, Daisy Wheel printers are available from about \$600 up. The lower priced ones are slow, very

slow in fact. As you go higher in price printers are available that will print a whole page in less than one minute with good letter quality printing, but look for a price from \$1500 up, up, up.

Another consideration for amateur use is an interface for Teletype use. The serial device available is called the RS-232 which is a unit (used with interfaces) for RTTY on the amateur bands, although some interfaces have the features built in. There are some interfaces that cost less than \$100 which permit both sending and receiving, and many will also handle Morse code. If you are planning on using a computer for RTTY, beware of the RFI. Some will produce so much RFI that you can't use them for RTTY; others are fairly quiet.

MONITOR: Many computers come with color. Many say that a computer with a color screen is basically designed for games; that company computers do not use color. If there was some advantage for business work, color monitors would be supplied. The resolution of a color screen does not permit small letters with the result that almost any color monitor will have fewer letters to the line. As an example the Apple (color) has only 40 letters to the line where the TRS-80 Models I and III have 64 (black and white). Investigate the line length on the cheaper computers; you will find that some are only 20 lines across. Also, remember that all that color has to be stored in memory that would be available for black and white only. The display of the unit should be carefully considered and you should see it before purchasing.

PROGRAMS: Probably this is the most important feature to investigate. Without a program the computer is worthless. Sometime programs are available in very limited quantity. The minis, of the higher priced variety, using disk units, have many popular programs available, many of them written by the owners and are in the public domain and can be given or swapped without copyright infringement. Some computers require that you buy the programs in cartridge form and you are stuck; on some you can't even program it yourself. Look for publications devoted to makes of computers. One brand has at last six national publications devoted specifically to it, and these magazines contain programs that can be typed and run. This is far ahead of any other make. So, be sure programs are available at a reasonable cost for the computer.

Another factor for radio amateurs; computer schedules. There are a number of computer nets on the air and these are a source of important information. If you plan to buy an expensive program, almost always someone is available for discussion. Suppose you wish to change a program slightly; someone can tell you how. And, perhaps you can help someone else along.

REPAIR SERVICE: Finally, what happens when the computer won't work? Can you obtain repairs within a reasonable distance and at a reasonable price? Can you take it yourself and wait for it to be repaired, or do you send it to some shop clear across country, paying for transportation and insurance, both coming and going. Obviously if you can take it to a shop locally, it is far better than sending it someplace.

These are just a few of the considerations to look for when deciding what computer to purchase. There are several other factors necessary for a particular individual and there should be carefully considered.

Y	Y	TTTTTT	A	RRRR	CCCC
Y	Y	T	A A	R R	C
Y		T	A A	RRRR	C
Y		T	AAAAAA	R R	C
Y		T	A	A R R	CCCC

The April meeting was held the 14th at the Baraboo Civic Center, Room 34. The following faithful were present:

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Baraboo
 Bob King, KA9GNY, Baraboo
 Harry Mayland, K9FFT, Baraboo
 Duane Grotophorst, KA9HKL, Sauk City
 Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Baraboo

No Quorum. A gab and technical session was held, and we had fun. Hope to see ya at the next meeting.

The May Meeting of the YTARC will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday May 16, 1983 in room 34 of the Baraboo Civic Center in Baraboo Wisconsin.

Interest in the club and meeting attendance has dropped, and as this may be the last meeting before Fall, the future plans for the club must be discussed. Also we will discuss plans for YTARC Field Day Participation. This will be a very important meeting so be sure to mark your calendar and attend.

Novice Classes are nicely underway, being held Wednesday nights around 7:15 p.m. in Room 25 of the Baraboo Civic Center. There are ten very fine folks in the class, being tutored by Bob King, KA9GNY and Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ. A most excellent turnout indeed.

Sentence Sermon

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

-Joseph Fort Newton

Birthdaze:

May 31 - Phil Anderson

Congrats and have lots more, Phil! k9zz

Mara Swapfest: Quite a few YTARCers were seen in Mad City April 10, taking part in the biggie fest, along with about 2000 other folks. Clyde, W9HSY, MARA President tells us that they gained about 3 Kilobux for the treasury, which comes at a good time, as they are just about "go" for their move to the new WISM-FM tower near Oregon, Wis. Good Luck, gang! k9zz

Dick Henry, KB9IS, has DXCC on RTTY!... Gerry, WA9BYF/VE1AVJ, continues his medical problem/treatment and sounded very nice and chipper on his way thru the are recently.... Getting med treatment and we all hope it goes well, Gerry!... Just about time for Orv, W9DXN, Melrose Park IL, to make his spring pilgrimage to Portage, where he resides in our great summer wx...

The Baraboo edition of the Walk America Walkathon for the March of Dimes went vey well, with Amateur communications helping.

We thank the following who gave willingly of their time and money, and some who got dern cold outside:

Harry Mayland, K9FFT, Baraboo
 Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Baraboo
 Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Baraboo
 Steve Polishinski, WB9YSD, Mad City
 Carl Dvorak, N9BZB, Baraboo
 Bob King, KA9GNY, Baraboo
 Art Kleefisch, W9WSS, Baraboo
 Steve Anderson, WD9ESA, Baraboo
 Tom Luck, WB9BPS, Baraboo

Special thanks to Art, W9WSS, who so willingly filled in at another checkpoint when the one who volunteered didn't show.

Thanx to Tom, WB9BPS, for working with Jim, WB9UQT on a computer program which provided officials with full printouts of stats for each walker. And a very special THANKS to all the regular gang on 52 who helped keep the frequency clear so we could have solid communications. GOOD JOB, YOUSE GUYS AND THANKS! k9zz

Among the walkers was Baraboo Mayor Don Pierce, who walked the entire 30 Km. route. k9zz

2 METER FM TO GET SPACED OUT

ARRL Bulletin Number 30 dated April 18, 1983

Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, will operate an amateur radio station aboard the next space shuttle mission, scheduled for September 1983. On April 16, NASA officially approved a joint ARRL/AMSAT proposal to include an amateur station aboard the STS 9/Spacelab flight. The joint ARRL/AMSAT proposal calls for ARRL to furnish the special amateur radio equipment for use on the shuttle, and to organize and coach amateurs in procedures for rapid and efficient communications with the shuttle. This operation, which will be on 2 meter FM will mark the first time in the history of space exploration the the general public will be able to communicate directly with an astronaut in orbit. Details will be forthcoming in QST.

ARRL Bulletin Number 31 dated April 20, 1983

On April 15, the FCC released a Public Notice updating the Amateur Radio Station Call Sign Assignment System. The Notice says the Commission does not intend to reissue unassigned call signs in the foreseeable future. It extends to two years the time in which an expired call sign can be renewed, and during which an expired secondary call sign can be transferred to a primary license. Finally, it sets forth a new prefix block for Desecro Island, now KPS.

jim k9zz 042483. K9EN print

ARRL bulletin Nr. 33 April 23, 1983

The ARRL Board of Directors met in Hartford, CT, April 21 and 22, 1983. The Board after extensive discussion, considering the overwhelming opposition of league members to the no code license, and finding little evidence that the requirement for a knowledge of morse code is a significant barrier to entry into Amateur Radio, unanimously voted to file comments with the FCC opposing in the strongest possible manner the creation of an amateur license class that does not require demonstration of knowledge of the morse code. The Board adopted the position statement, which is the subject of ARRL Bulletin 32.

In other regulatory matters, the Board directed that favorable comments be filed in the FCC proposal to establish 10 year license terms and 2 year grace periods. The Board reaffirmed its support of the hf phone band expansion proposed by FCC for the 80, 15 and 10 meter bands which is consistent with the ARRL proposal as outlined on page 51 of October 1982 QST.

The Board approved a revitalization plan for the intruder watch and adopted the recommendation of VRAC that 2 meter splinter repeater channels be upright east of the continental divide to be phased in over a five year period. It was voted that memorandums of understanding be effected between the League and the National Communications System and REACT respectively.

Plans were approved for a more continuous Washington DC presence, and eventual autonomy of the CRRRL over a five year period. An ARRL Scholarship endowment fund honoring senator Barry M. Goldwater, K7UGA was established. ----- A pilot program to hold general ARRL membership meetings at the 1983 and 1984 ARRL National Conventions was adopted. Directors Grauer, Holladay, Milius, and Nathanson were elected to the ARRL Executive Committee.

The full minutes will appear in June 1983 QST.

ARRL Bulletin NR 32 April 22, 1983

Follows a summary of the ARRL Board of Directors position on Docket 83 28, the so called no code docket.

1. The Board initially registered opposition to the concept of a codeless license when it was first raised, citing amateur opinion disclosed by the LRPC Florida State survey.

2. Following issuance of Docket 83 28, and up to the time of this Board meeting, ARRL has maintained an essentially neutral stance, editorially, in correspondence and discussions. ARRL leadership, to this point, has refrained from attempts to direct or prejudice membership response.

3. Membership opinion continues to be overwhelmingly opposed to dropping the code requirement. Any tolerance for a no code license appears to arise more from acceptance of its presumed inevitability than acknowledgment of any intrinsic benefits perceived for the Amateur Radio Service.

4. Board discussions in depth have led to the conclusion that no satisfactory compromise formula for a codeless license can be established in the

foreseeable future. Considering the obligation of the Amateur Radio Service to its public service and commitments and disciplined use of the radio spectrum, the Board has no alternative but to reject the proposal.

5. The Board is keenly aware of the desirability of encouraging more people, particularly young persons to join the ranks of Amateur Radio. It is only the method proposed by the Commission that is unacceptable. For its part the Board will continue to seek to improve and extend ARRL programs to reach and support the entry of newcomers to Amateur Radio.

Therefore, the ARRL Board of Directors meeting in annual session in Hartford, CT on April 21 and 22, 1983, has adopted the following resolution.

Whereas, the FCC has proposed in Docket 83 28 a significant revision in the structure of the Amateur Service by introducing a new class of code free Amateur license and

Whereas, the League shares the objective of encouraging and facilitating the entry into the amateur ranks of additional persons, especially bright young persons, but has found little evidence that the requirement for a knowledge of morse code is a significant to such entry and

Whereas, the League Officers, Directors and staff have reviewed the impact of a new license class upon the volunteer examination program proposed in Docket 83 27, and

Whereas, The League, conscious of the significant contributions made by an Amateur Radio Service which is composed of highly qualified and highly motivated individuals, is concerned that there be no further reduction in the long established entry standards,

And Therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the ARRL in annual meeting assembled that the General Manager is directed to prepare for filing by counsel comments in the matter of Docket 83 28 stating in the strongest possible manner the opposition of the League to the creation of an Amateur license class that does not require demonstration of a knowledge of the morse code.

A forthcoming WIAW bulletin will detail other matters considered by the ARRL Board AR

The above bulletins received by K9EN just before this issue was ready to print. Hope that the copy is all ok as there were several misprints on the Teletype copy received.

The issue of no code licenses puts the ARRL Board in a very tough position. If the Board had backed down from their opposition to the no code license they would have lost the support of many of the League members. Their continued opposition may leave them little room for further negotiations with the FCC who has said that the license will be created, with or without the League's blessing.

It is like being between "A rock and A hard place".

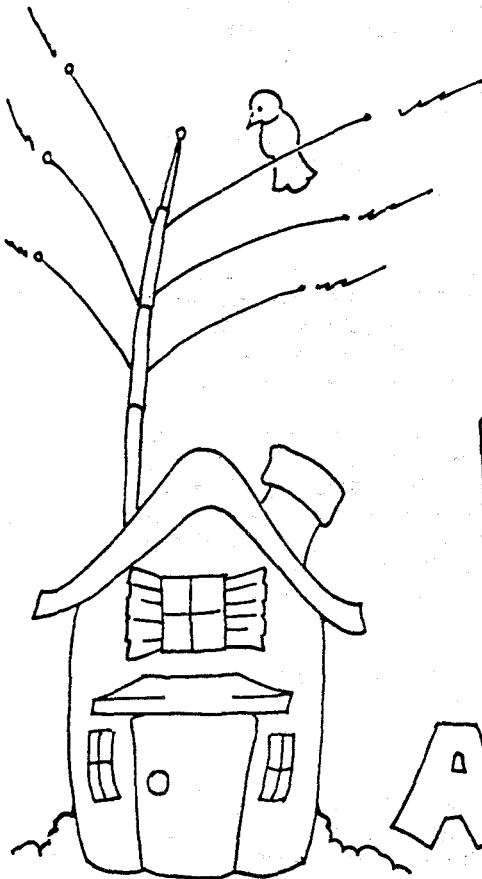
My congratulations to the Board on their courage in taking such a strong position. -K9en

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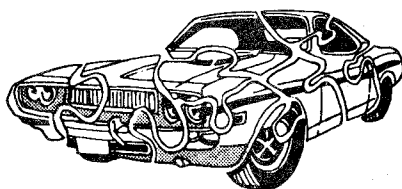
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 3 years - \$17.00 (36 issues)

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